



15 February 2010

Dear Barry and Emu Gully Staff

I am writing to thank you and all the Emu Gully staff for making our recent Year 12 Camp the great success it was. I know that with such large numbers a great strain was placed upon your resources, however this did not take away from the enjoyment and the challenge of the program you had devised for us. I appreciated the flexibility and creativity of you and your staff in adapting to the often changeable weather conditions. The feedback I have had from the boys has been overwhelmingly positive. It has been an awesome way to kick off their senior year and an event from which we will refer to often during the course of the next twelve months.

Barry, I am indebted to you and your staff for their professionalism, their honesty with the boys and their passion for their jobs. All of this was evident in the way they conducted each of the activities and interacted with the boys. Especially, I would like to thank Darren for his leadership of our group through the three days we were there.

The success of this camp was a very personal one for me as well. From what started out as an idea, became a conversation with Mark Lysaght that developed into a reality that was the camp we have just experienced. Last week Mark, Peter Gabauer and my staff held a de-briefing session. Our conversation during that meeting was positive and hopeful that this event would become an annual occurrence. We discussed ways in which we could improve our program so that the total experience for the boys could be further maximized. I am very keen to come back to Emu Gully as I hope you would be happy to have us back.

In closing, let me thank you all once again for an incredible camp. I look forward to the possibility of working with you in the future as together we play our part in the education of the next generation and beyond.

And so from the Franciscans at Padua I wish you and your staff peace and all good things for the remainder of 2010.

Yours sincerely

**Michael O'Brien**  
**Vice Rector - Formation**